GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4627
ANSWERED ON:30.03.2017
Aquatic Life in Ganga River
Parthipan Shri R.

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched the first ever across-the-river survey in river Ganga to determine the population of aquatic life including that of the endangered Gangetic dolphin recently and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is having a baseline scientific data for taking suitable measures to improve quality of its water by various studies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the efforts made/to be made towards purification of Ganga river water?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION
(SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a) Yes Madam, The Government has recently launched a survey in river Ganga to determine the population of aquatic life including that of the endangered Gangetic dolphin. National Mission for Clean Ganga has entrusted Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun to carry out a comprehensive survey of the aqua life of Ganga. As part of this project WII has initiated a standardized multi- species focus field survey throughout the Ganga River stretch. The survey focuses on the Gangetic Dolphin, Otter, Crocodiles, Fresh water turtles, migratory and breeding water birds, Amphibians, Fish and aquatic insects.

(b) Consortium of 7 IITs has conducted a detailed study using the available baseline data to evaluate the Ganga River pollution and prepared Ganga River Basin Management Plan (GRBMP). The recommendations of GRBMP in the form of action points include measures towards achievement of AviralDhara and NirmalDhara through Ecological Restoration, Sustainable Agriculture, Geological Safeguarding, Basin Protection against Disasters, River Hazards Management and Environmental Knowledge-Building and Sensitization.

(c) Conservation & cleaning of river Ganga is a continuous & collective effort of Central Government, State Governments, Local bodies and general public.

Under Namami Gange Programme a holistic approach has been adopted to clean the river Ganga. The various types of pollution abatement schemes taken up to clean Ganga may be categorized into core and non-core schemes. Core schemes include Interception and Diversion (I&D) of sewage discharging into the Ganga and creating treatment infrastructure to treat the intercepted sewage. Non-Core schemes include providing Low Cost Sanitation (LCS) at community and individual levels at identified locations, installation of Crematoria (electric as well as wood based improved crematoria), River Front Development (RFD) including bathing ghats, river surface cleaning, afforestation, protecting biodiversity and creating public awareness and participation.
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